

1990 Graduate Student Symposium

Department of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Porter Biosciences Building
Campus Box 347
Boulder, Colorado 80309-0347
(303) 492-7743

August 23, 1989

Dr. Harmon C. McAllister
Research Director
The Council for Tobacco Research, USA, Inc.
900 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear Dr. McAllister,

The graduate students in the Department of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology are hosting a symposium entitled "Life at the Edge: from Prebiotic Chemistry to Extraterrestrial Biology" to be held April 6-8, 1990. The symposium will explore two "edges": the boundary separating life from nonlife, and the environmental extremes at which biological systems can survive. Sessions covering these topics will provide a framework for a final session on whether life exists elsewhere in our solar system, and what experiments one could do to address this question. Enclosed is a tentative program which includes a list of invited speakers. This letter is written in the hope that The Council for Tobacco Research, USA, Inc. will again contribute to this meeting.

This is the tenth symposium organized and run entirely by the 70 graduate students of this department. These unique symposia are a yearly highlight of graduate student life here. They allow us to interact with prominent scientists from diverse disciplines and provide us with deeper insight into many of the significant questions facing biologists today. These symposia also serve to animate the scientific climate of this region by bringing to Boulder outstanding investigators from across the country. Past symposia have attracted from 200 to 300 participants, nearly half of whom were affiliated with institutions other than the University of Colorado. This participation has been a boon to both this department and the Colorado research community as a whole.

Last year The Council for Tobacco Research, USA, Inc. generously donated \$1000.00 to the Graduate Student Symposium. Your support helped make last year's program a great success. We would like you to consider giving a similar amount again this year. Your donation would be acknowledged at the symposium and in the publicity. Regardless of whether or not you decide to contribute, we invite you to attend what we anticipate will be a most exciting symposium.

Sincerely,



Janice Pata
Graduate Student Symposium
Organizing Committee



Larry Gold
Chairman
Department of Molecular, Cellular,
and Developmental Biology

enclosure: symposium program